

Student arrested on armed robbery and assault charges

BY EMILY GAHAN
Co-editor in Chief

A Joliet Junior College student has been arrested and charged in connection with a firearms incident at Centennial Commons on Aug. 30. Centennial Commons is the on-campus housing facility for students.

Jordan Myers, an 18-year-old JJC student living in Centennial Commons, was arrested by Joliet Police and charged with attempted armed robbery and aggravated assault, according to police.

The alleged victim was a male student who lives at the Commons.

“While walking home from a party at (building) 1541, he (the victim) was followed by three individuals who later were identified by police,” JJCPD Cmdr. Melvin Cornelius said.

Police arrived at the scene at 2:45 a.m. after Myers allegedly pointed a gun at another student’s chest outside the victim’s apartment, located in the same 1500 block. According to Cornelius, the individuals and the alleged victim had an altercation at the party beforehand, and it is

likely this is what influenced the incident.

After the alleged victim pushed Myers away from his home, Cornelius indicated that a roommate of the student appeared due to the commotion and the three suspects fled the scene. Myers was identified after police showed the alleged victim a line-up of possible suspects.

According to police, the alleged victim was not socially involved with the three individuals, but he did recognize them. One of the other two individuals was

also identified, but the alleged victim indicated that the second individual was not involved in the attempted robbery, police said. Joliet Police Cmdr. Al Roechner said police are still searching for the third suspect.

Police were allowed to search several apartment units in the area, but no firearms were found. After his arrest, Myers was taken to the Will County Jail and was placed on bond Sept. 7.

Campus Police suggest that students be aware of further suspicious activity in the Centennial Commons area. Anyone who has further



Jordan Myers

information about the incident should call Campus Police at 815-280-2234 or Will County Crime Stoppers at 800-323-6734.

Allied health building on track for completion

BY EMILY GAHAN
Co-editor in Chief

Students enrolling in nursing, emergency services and allied health programs next year will be receiving their education in the newly constructed Health Professions Building.

The 124,000-square-foot building is scheduled for completion in time for the spring 2013 semester. The building is one of many construction projects outlined in Joliet Junior College’s master plan, an ongoing effort of campus and community leaders, in conjunction with architects and builders, to update and improve the campus with sustainability and accessibility goals in mind.

The state-of-the-art building will provide students with more space, with eleven general classrooms, seven nursing labs and two CNA labs. Also, there will be a large computer lab and testing center.

Mary Beth Luna, department chair of all allied health services, expressed positivity and excitement about the unique features of the building.

“One of the elements we were cognizant of when planning the building was having a view of the trees and natural areas and using lots of natural light,” Luna said. “There is a great student area on the second floor that

is awesome where students can study and relax. I think they will find the building calming and beautiful.”

Along with smart usage of natural light, some other green features of the building include a rainwater collection system for toilet flushing and an underground geothermal heating system. The building was constructed working closely with

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Once completed, it will be the third building on campus to achieve a LEED Gold standard for sustainability.

While the architecture of the building itself is impressive, students will be able to make use of the latest educational technologies for health professions. Luna noted that

the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) area will have practice areas that will simulate settings the students might encounter on the job. “For example, there will be a bathroom with a tub, sink and toilet so they can practice how to assess and transport a patient who perhaps has fallen and is stuck between the toilet and tub,” Luna said.

Perhaps the most advanced

element of the building is the Simulation Center. Nursing students will be able to work with highly realistic mannequins, which according to Luna “can speak, cry, sweat, bleed and have a seizure.”

The rooms will be a simulation of a hospital setting

See HEALTH on page 5



Photo by Renne Ronzone

This is a view of the facade of the new Allied Health Building to open in January. If you look closely, on the right side of the photo you can see a worker installing some drywall.

EDITORIAL

Blazer welcomes the new and returning

Starting with the new students, welcome to all of you. Whether you're a college freshman, reverse transfer student, adult student or anything else, college provides opportunities to expand your learning horizons.

We hope that you enjoy your experiences here at JJC, and the Blazer offers a few pieces of information to help you get moving along.

First, your counselors and advisors are your best friends. There's no need to go it alone. Many factors affect who you can go to for advising or counseling.

Of course, there are general options if you haven't decided on a

specific major. Remember, you're not limited to one counselor or advisor. You can meet with as many of them as you want.

Secondly, the sooner you can decide what career you wish to pursue, the better. There are many programs that have curriculums that include four or more semesters of sequential classes, so make sure to not get left behind.

Finally, JJC has so many resources available to students to promote success.

There's tutoring available in virtually every subject, helpful faculty and staff, easy computer and book access in our library and affordable printing

capabilities. Just be sure to get an I.D. for the semester to gain access. Be sure to take advantage of every resource you can to make the best of your time here.

For the returning students, most of you already know the previous advice we've mentioned before, but there are still some things that you might be unaware of and could benefit you if you take advantage of them.

There are many programs and scholarships that require a certain period of attendance and grade point average. Be sure to look for these so that you can ease some of the financial stresses that many of us are having these days.

Also, since JJC is commonly used as a starting point for transfer, it would be in your best interest to evaluate what you have achieved so far and prepare for where you're going after graduation or transfer to another college. This includes taking classes required for certain majors, participating in clubs that will improve your college resume and noting significant achievements you can add to improve others' image of you.

The Blazer wishes all of you the best of luck no matter what you are striving for, and remember to always enjoy yourself while chasing your dreams.

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Musings of an nontradtdional student

BY AUTUMN PULVERMACHER

Guest Columnist

As a returning adult student, I feel it. Yes, I'll admit it-I feel old. I'm surrounded by you promising, bright and young adults in my classes and all over campus.

I see what you can't yet see, with all of your untapped potential and limitless time. It all lies before you, no huge regrets or missteps yet made. No countless years and money spent on majors and

degree programs that turned out to not be the right fit.

No sacrificing your dreams for harsh realities like working menial jobs for years past when you feel you should be. Paying bills and keeping up with rent takes top priority and further education takes a backseat. Like John Lennon said, "life is what happens when you're busy making other plans." So yes, besides feeling my age I'm envious

of of your youth and your opportunities.

When I was younger, I was blissfully unaware of how important time is and how fast it flies. Now I'm back at JJC years later with lots of unused credits and a professional license I can't use.

I'm back to square one after years of working at a job that pays the bills but has no future potential. So naturally,

I get a little embarrassed when I'm the only person in my class that's old enough to drink and rent a car (or when I fumble with my flash drive or ask lots of questions in computer class). However, there are benefits. As an adult I'm a much better student now than I ever was when I was younger, because let me tell you, when you're paying for your classes you try much harder.

I'm more focused, driven,

organized and hopeful because I have so much more to strive for now. Although I don't have unblemished youth behind me, I do have one very cool thing-life experience. Like Adele sings, "regrets and mistakes are memories made."

So the next time we pass each other in the hallway remember-we adult students aren't behind the younger ones. Like some flowers, we're just late bloomers, that's all.



BY MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-editor in Chief

With Democratic and Republican rallies being the main focus of the news, it's time to think about voting. Whether you're a part of the youth, female, a veteran or any other demographic, both parties are fighting hard for

your attention. On top of this, making an informed decision is both harder and easier with easier access to up-to-the-minute information. While you can't take all of this at face value these days, it's still important to hear what both sides have to say.

It's important to vote and to be informed about your decision. Make sure that as many voices as possible are represented with the results of Election Day. It's easy to vote, but a harder to vote informed.

Of course, you'll have to register to vote, which is easy enough to forget to do with all the constant worries from home or school. This is the most important step. JJC even hosts voter registration days to help you get registered and let your voice be heard.

After you register, you'll have to take a long, hard look at all of the candidates

and decide which one most closely follows your point of view. This is how our system of government works. While they may not be one hundred percent aligned with your beliefs, you will have to look for buzz topics that will attract the most attention and decide what's most important to you.

There are so many things to consider. There's abortion, reproductive rights, treatment of veterans and actions abroad, healthcare, education reform, tax reform and the list goes on and on. It's pretty likely that your choice for president, or any other government representative, may disagree with you on one or more of these topics. Again, you have to look at both sides and see which person most closely

represents you.

There is so much information being thrown at each of us, it's almost impossible to not know at least a little about both sides. It's important to understand that this information is usually biased or has a lean toward one side or the other. This means that to make an informed decision, you'll have to seek out information yourself.

Try to find an impartial resource. This can usually be determined by looking at the source of the information. If you do find facts or statistics from a biased source, remember to take what they say with a reasonable amount of doubt. Recently, information presented on both sides has

lead into arguments over presenting a false picture of the situation by leaving key points out of the argument. Please be careful about believing info presented as facts.

No matter who you decide to vote for, what is most important is that you put forth your own voice. Too many people go without putting their own beliefs on the table, and this can lead to groups of people being overlooked in our government. It is up to the individual to put his or her voice forward. Come Election Day, each individual's voice is heard as a group, and the largest group will decide who will represent all of us.

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BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-editor in Chief

As you might have learned from any history class that delves into ancient civilizations, Mesopotamian society developed a bartering system as its main economic model. You know how it went: you traded a woman for a few goats and you had a deal.

While this raises red flags in the realm of modern human decency, thankfully the renewed interest in swapping goods in today's hard economic times benefits everyone involved. I'm not one to tout the importance of wealth above all else, but being thrifty in some sense is a valuable skill that students should begin to learn before giving in to the lure of money leeches. Oops, that was a typo. I meant credit card companies.

People are becoming defensive of their wallets and more conscious about their spending practices. Thrift stores are seeing

an increase in sales while people are opting to buy second-hand instead of new. As a result, there is an overabundance of websites dedicated to trading everything from used clothes to houses.

I know what you're thinking: "Houses? Really?" That just goes to show that all aspects of life are not as concrete (pun intended?) as they seem. If some people are industrious enough to trade houses, you can certainly forfeit an old DVD so it can be enjoyed by someone who might make better use of it.

If you are new to online bartering, start small. Instead of splurging on new clothes or video games, see if you have some old clothes or video games around the house that you can stand to part with in a trade. Once you have chosen a few items to offer for a trade, it's time to seek out a website that will advertise your unwanted stuff so you can get stuff you do want. As the old saying goes, one's trash is another person's treasure.

First, there are general bartering sites such as Swap.com, SwapAce and SwapTreasure. These sites are all-purpose behemoths that offer up a multitude of items for trade. For example, one popular trade currently featured on the front page of Swap.com is a 2011 Mercedes-Benz C300. Most people don't go that far, so the most abundant items you'll find are DVDs, CDs and books. You might have more trouble finding more obscure titles, but more popular titles are all over the place and easy to find trades for.

If you are looking for a niche site specializing in something

more specific, there are many options out there as well.

Books
Literary fanatics will be pleased to know that there are several battering websites dedicated specifically to books. Some websites include BookMooch and PaperBack Swap. Another site, Bookins, claims to have "more available books than the largest Barnes & Noble."

If you have a hard-cover copy of Twilight lying around from your angst-ridden high school days, fear not. You will be able to trade it for a similar novel (Fifty Shades of Grey for instance), without much trouble. Now you can enjoy an erotic novel based on Twilight fan fiction in exchange for the supernatural teenage hormone fest itself (based on dime store romantic drama).

Clothes and Accessories
While particularly savvy retail shoppers opt for resale shops, there are websites devoted to trading fashionable items of clothing: SwapStyle and ReHash. Clothes are two main ones. When it comes to clothes for ever-growing children, there's thredUP, which is more like an online retailer than a bartering site. However, it's worth a mention because the company receives all its clothing from households who simply place unwanted children's clothes on their doorstep for pick up.

As a note, clothes swapping might be one of the most difficult forms of bartering because of the fact people have so many varied tastes. You may find that someone has a necklace that suits your style, but it is likely that the

other person has a fashion sense different than yours and doesn't want hipster glasses with fake lenses in return.

Movies and Video Games
Unlike clothing or books, movies and video games have a low re-use factor. Unless your appreciation for Doctor Who borders on obsession (which you'll realize once you buy a light up TARDIS coin bank), it's unlikely you'll watch an entire DVD box set more than twice.

The best site for gamers and DVD seekers alike is Goozex. Goozex has a superb matching system that many other swapping sites don't have. This will save you time when it comes to hunting down people who want what you have to offer and have something you want in return. While membership is free, there is a transaction fee of \$1.99. This is a small price to play for media items that are generally upwards of \$40 new.

Unless otherwise mentioned, these sites should be free to use. The only expenses you should be paying for are postage and a small transaction fee. If any site is requesting anything beyond that, you are being scammed.

While there are many more options than this floating around on the internet, the aforementioned sites will give you a solid start. In time, bartering will no longer be a concept of the past. People can use this technique to save money and interact with others.

By the way, if you really are interested in bartering for a few goats, there's a site for that too. It's called Craigslist (I'm not kidding.).

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JJC student sees future for college activists

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-editor in Chief

Ever since he was a young child, JJC student Alex Forgue has enjoyed reading about the influential movers and shakers of years past such as Martin Luther King, Malcolm X and Gandhi. He is not unlike many college students who feel the issues of our era are pressing matters that must be addressed and discussed.

With the November elections just months away, some students are beginning to question if either political party will be able to address young adults' concerns about employment, rising tuition and environmental degradation. An increased interest in activism against corruption on all fronts has been apparent with the Occupy movements, which first took off last year.

Taking matters into their own hands, Forgue and a few

other like-minded students have decided to begin the Progressive Student Union at JJC.

"Our aims are to increase activism with students and to educate them on issues such as civil rights, economic issues and environmental issues while at the same time teaching them how to organize effectively," Forgue said.

The group also hopes to raise money for other local charities and causes it supports, he added.

Forgue noted that he came up with the idea for the student group after he met former JJC student John Stachelski at a Caterpillar picket line. After talking with Stachelski, the two activists agreed that it would be an excellent idea to begin an action group.

"The last few years there has been increase in student activism

around the world and in the United States," Forgue said. "Students for a Democratic Society (founded in the 1960s) has started again; it's now titled 'New SDS', so I think that's a good sign that students are becoming more interested in politics because they are starting to see that these decisions are affecting them as well."

While the Progressive Student Union is still in the early stages of organizing, Forgue said the group has plans to get involved with projects as soon as it is up and running. Events have yet to be scheduled, but Forgue is confident that the group is close to being ready for its first meeting.

Those interested in participating can join the group's Facebook page or contact Forgue through email (alexforgue.mchs@gmail.com) or by phone (779-379-2778).



Photo courtesy of Alex Forgue

Alex Forgue supports Caterpillar workers.

Red Cross wants your blood: Drive scheduled for Sept. 25

BY VICTORIA SHINER

Staff Writer

The American Red Cross will be hosting its annual blood drive from 9-3 p.m. on Sept. 25. The blood drive is sponsored by JJC and will be held at the center bridge.

The need for blood is always constant; about every two seconds someone in the US needs blood. One pint of blood can save approximately three lives.

Donations contribute to the ongoing effort to provide a safe supply of blood for every person who needs it. Blood donated to American Red Cross is used for transfusions.

More than 1 million people are diagnosed with cancer each year and many need blood throughout their treatments. According to the American Red Cross, a single car accident may need about up to 100 pints of blood. An average red blood cell transfusion is about three pints.

"Do you know anybody who ever needed blood?" Amy Sims, coordinator of student activities and holistic wellness, asks. "It is life changing for the individual who needs the blood, [donating]

saves peoples' lives."

The blood drive has taken place at JJC for at least 10 years now. The goal for this year is to reach about 40 units of blood.

A lot of the donors are JJC faculty and students, but the blood drive is open to the public. JJC sponsors about four to five blood drives a year.

"Most of our blood drives do really well and we almost always meet our goal," Sims said. American Red Cross will take walk-ins, but appointments are recommended. The expected

wait time for walk-ins could be up to two hours.

Photo I.D.s are required and it is suggested that students make sure to eat a good meal and drink plenty water before donating. Donors will receive a ticket for free admission for two to Chicago's Laugh Factory (restrictions apply).

To schedule an appointment, or browse for more donation information, visit www.redcrossblood.org or contact Sims at (815) 280-2202 or by email at asims@jjc.edu.



WRITERS, EDITORS PHOTOGRAPHERS:
BLAZER NEEDS A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

Join the gamers club for a lock in

BY MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-editor in Chief

School is in session, but the Gamers Club of JJC is here to keep up the fun. On Sept. 15, this club is hosting a lock-in event called "Back-to-School Fun". It's scheduled from 5 p.m.-12a.m. in the cyber café, but these events have been known to sometimes last a little longer. While locked

in at JJC, the Gamers Club and guests will play a variety of games chosen and brought by the people who attend the event.

Club Supervisor, Paul Schroeder, and members of the club set up the playing area with online access for video games, networked or stand-alone game consoles, tables for cards and board games or anything else that they need.

"People always ask me, 'What games do you guys play?' and I tell them, I don't know.

What games you are bringing?" Schroeder said.

In the past Schroeder supplied many of the games, but now with the diverse interests among students it's easier for them to bring what they want and work together to help everyone have fun. This doesn't mean there's any lack of entertainment, the Gamers Club has been actively working remain fun and successful. "Our club last year met all the requirements to earn the gold award for the CCC (Collegiate

Club Council)," says Schroeder. "You have to earn the funding the school gives you as a club; it's not all fun and games. We also give back to the community, collaborate with other clubs and have done fundraisers."

The Gamers Club is what the students make it. There are long-time members, and there are people who just stop by the events every now and then to blow off some steam.

"The Gamers Club is not about meetings, it's about events like

our lock-ins. The idea is about being able to get out of the house and do something to have fun," Schroeder says.

"I'm a big believer in doing something to give your brain a rest. When you're tired, rest. When you're rested, learn."

Schroeder and the Gamers Club host a number of these lock-ins throughout the semester, so look forward to plenty of chances to give your brain a rest, meet new people, play some games and most of all have some fun.

Get into the arts this fall semester

BY MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-editor in Chief

JJC's Fine Arts Department is showcasing a wide variety of talent this fall. From showroom to stage, there's going to be much to experience right here on campus. Last year's fundraising campaign for a new 88-key Steinway piano has drawn to a close, and a dedication concert took place on Sept. 12 and was an impressive display of musicianship. It was held in honor of all the donors who helped JJC procure its first Steinway piano. JJC's music faculty is also planning multiple Musica Viva events, which are concerts performed by the faculty themselves. All promise

to be excellent performances, including those with titles such as "Screaming Norwegians" and "Magnificent Metal III".

There will also be a number of student recitals performed by students with a strong musical interest and with various instruments. Ensemble events are also planned. The Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra from Lewis University is performing as soon as October. Later in the semester,

JJC's ensembles such as the Community and Jazz Bands, as well as the JJC Chamber Singers with their Madrigal and the JJC Chorale with a Carols and Chocolate Concert will be performing. All of this will be

taking place with still more to come later in the semester.

The theatre students and faculty are also preparing for a big semester. In early October, Dr. Zachary Bloomfield and his cast are performing Wt, which is described as an intellectual and emotional journey featuring Vivian Bearing, who while struck with cancer still manages to reassess her life in a humorous manner.

Later in October is Extremities by William Mastromosimone, which will be directed by Nicki Blowers. This performance will take place in the new black box theater, and will be the first theater performance in this area. Further into the semester are

The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare, directed by Clay Kirkland, The Mystery of Edwin Drood directed by Tammy Perkins and Cat on a Hot Tin Roof directed by Nicki Blowers.

Another performance is the One Acts Festival, which is directed by students in JJC's directing classes and Children's Theatre Touring Show. With access to new facilities and proven theater faculty, this season is one to be excited about.

The Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery is hosting exhibitions in a newly renovated venue on the first floor of J-building this semester. The gallery will be covering a wide range of artists, including local alumni, local high school

art instructors, member artists of the 33 Contemporary Gallery in Chicago, a competitive exhibition of our own student's work and a solo exhibition by JJC assistant professor, Eric Gorder.

More details about these events, including receptions and guest speakers, will be announced soon. With the first exhibition beginning in September and the final exhibition ending in May, the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery will be filled with fine art all semester.

These exhibitions and related events are free and open to the public. The art faculty and students encourage visitors to come and enjoy all of the hard work and beautiful presentations.



Photo by Renee Ronzone

What used to be the old book store is now the new Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery.

HEALTH from page 1

where students will care for the mannequins like real patients. Instructors will have the ability to monitor students through a two-way mirror and offer feedback on how students are interacting with the patient.

"This will allow our students to experience some of the high-risk, but low-incidence encounters that they may never see in their

clinical rotations as a student, but will need to know how to handle when they graduate and get into practice," Luna said. "We know it will help to develop our students' clinical reasoning and critical thinking."

Above all, the facility is a welcome addition for JJC's associate degree program for nursing, which has the largest number of graduates in the state in comparison with similar programs, according to Luna.

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September 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 <i>OSA Presents</i> Mainstreet	6 <i>OSA Presents</i> Mainstreet	7	8
9 <i>Theatre Presents</i> Steinway Dedication Concert	10	11 <i>OSA, Campus Police, & EHS Presents</i> Tribute to 9/11	12 <i>OSA Presents</i> C.L. Lindsey Speaks	13	14 <i>JJC Presents</i> Part Time Seasonal Job Fair	15 <i>Gamer's Club Presents</i> Back-to-School Fun
16 <i>Theater Presents</i> Musica Viva	17 <i>Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery</i> Now and Then Exhibition opens	18	19 <i>OSA Presents</i> Karaoke	20 <i>OSA and Veteran's Alliance Presents</i> Veteran Lunch Bunch	21	22
23	24	25 <i>Holistic Wellness Presents</i> American Red Cross Blood Drive	26 <i>OSA Presents</i> Cold Blooded Creatures <i>Theater Presents</i> Student Recital	27	28	29
30						

For a more detailed calendar stop by the Office of Student Activities at D-1010, or visit JJC.edu for up to date event listings.



Top image: (from left) Devan Kohn and Sam Jensen look for new club members. Right image: Students participate in the events at Mainstreet. Bottom image: (from left) Evy Walker, Pam Dilday, and Suzette Hinkle hand out free ice cream during Mainstreet.

Story by: Ashley Beushausen

Photos by: Emily Gahan

Clubs come out in force for Mainstreet

Tables lined the main concourse at JJC on Wednesday, Sept. 5 and Thursday, Sept. 6 during Mainstreet.

Mainstreet is an event organized to encourage students to get involved at JJC. Each table was manned by representatives from dozens of organizations within the JJC community.

Organized by the Office of Student Activities, this event has helped students get in the know about clubs and activities every fall and spring for a number of

years. "Mainstreet is the information fair at JJC, and a way for students to get a snapshot of student life at JJC. Mainstreet is an excellent way for JJC students to see what JJC has to offer both in student life and resources," said Pam Dilday, the director of student activities and campus student life. Throughout this event, many clubs have been able to gain recognition and find new members. The setup of Mainstreet allows for students to easily talk

to members of certain clubs and sign up for them.

Without this event, many students would not be aware for the many clubs and organizations that JJC has. According to Dilday, about 70 tables were out on the concourse, with clubs and departments at each one. Free stuff is always one of the main attractions at Mainstreet.

The OSA even offered free ice cream. Once a person received his or her ice cream, toppings were available at the various tables,

attracting students to learn about many different organizations.

Most tables had free candy or other incentives. One organization that stood out among the masses was the voter's registration table.

The process to register was quick and easy. The table not only promoted involvement at JJC, but it also encouraged getting involved on a national level.

Be sure to watch out for the next Mainstreet in the spring and get yourself involved in something fun at JJC.



Tiffany Mucci attracts eco-friendly students.



Students crowd Mainstreet looking for new clubs to join.



Breigh Starkey blows bubbles to get students attention for the Blazer booth.

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A ‘breath of fresh air’ for hip-hop

BY LORENZO JACKSON
Staff Writer

Listeners of Dwele have come to expect good neo soul, and Dwele does not disappoint in his newest album, Greater Than One, released on Aug. 28.

Most fans remember Dwele from his work on Kanye West’s singles “Flashing Lights” and “Power.” He also is known for his work on Common’s single from the album Finding Forever, “The People.”

This album was a breath of fresh air for the hip-pop community, smooth and R&B-like in its own right. Many were anxious to open the plastic to the CD. The album fits the taste of male and female listeners alike. Dwele throughout the album

can be seen as a man delivering a good serenade to a lady at the bar, the girl in class two desks away or even the woman in the night club who happens to catch glances.

Despite the vulgar reputation of hip-pop, this album is surprisingly “family friendly.” Each song runs together like a book or movie. The only song that may bring up a few questions is “Obey,” which for the ladies is a steamy classic that you would definitely want to repeat

“Must Be” with its various features has an amazing groove many would like. “Swank” is a chill, jazzy track filled with good horns. If you ever visit local bars, a drink you might consider is the “Patrick Ronald,” which is the name of another song.

A couple songs for a wedding DJ to consider are “This Love” and “Special.” The last song I

found particularly interesting was “Frankly My Dear,” which is a good ode to Dwele’s inner womanizer.

This album is a great listen. It’s one R&B album you won’t have to hide from the kids, with enough class and maturity to touch base on all aspects of love, lust, and the dynamics of it.

In case you are new to Dwele, according to his official fan page, Dwele.net, Andwele Gardner was born Feb. 14, 1978. He is also known as Dwele, a soul singer, songwriter and record producer from the west side of Detroit.

As a youngster he picked up the piano and later went on to learn the trumpet, bass and guitar. After losing his father at a young age, he let music become his therapy and he invested his emotions deeply into music.

He began his career out of the

trunk of his car, selling his debut single “Rize,” which sold 100 copies in a week.

This exposed him later to the Detroit underground scene.



Photo courtesy of Koch Records

‘Journey’ into a new game

BY EMILY GAHAN
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Independent game developers have been gaining popularity as of late, with Minecraft as a notable success that rose out of the underground.

For gamers who enjoy lesser-known games or just are looking for an experience that is a little out of the ordinary, thatgamecompany, a developing team known for its abstract, artsy titles such as flOw, has released its equally engaging title, *Journey*, this year for PlayStation 3.

While this game takes two hours at most to complete, its playability lies in its ability to express a sense of wonder to

gamers and non-gamers of all ages.

Journey begins without much context in a mystical desert world complete with an eerie and exotic musical score. From the very beginning it already feels like Dune, if it were adapted into an award-winning children’s movie. You play as a nameless, robed being seeking to venture to the top of a mountain that looms in the distance. This is your only objective, but the silent cut scenes suggest that a great power is at the summit, using symbols and runes reminiscent of ancient Egypt to get the point across.

The mountain serves as a marker to guide your path as you slide effortlessly down dunes and jump on ruins using the assistance of magical cloth scrolls. The controls have a nimble and airy feeling along with the ethereal

landscape. It’s fun to glide over to the next tower or surf the sands into a new area.

The simplicity of this game is a breath of fresh air as well. The lack of a visible interface gives players the feeling that they are on an expedition without a destination. You are compelled to explore the beautifully detailed and rustic world without feeling rushed to complete tasks. Plus, it’s so gigantic in scale that you feel like you might not be able to explore it all after all.

Your only ability allows you to utilize the power of the aforementioned scrolls by calling

out to them. As you explore, a scarf flying around on your back grows and allows you to receive aid from the enchanted scrolls for longer durations. But be wary, even a dreamy and open-ended game such as this has its own antagonists. In later levels, mechanical serpents flying overhead will attack and reduce the length of your scarf if you are unable to hide in time.

If you’re already getting the feeling this is a solitary game, thankfully it’s not. What really gives *Journey* a good portion of its charm is its anonymous multiplayer function. Throughout

the game you will be paired with a different player for each portion of the game you loft your way through. The catch is you will have no idea who these players are. This is a unique feature that I would love to see integrated into other online games.

If you believe video games should be like beautiful paintings, *Journey* is definitely for you. While I would have loved to see the length of the game extended, it has enough ambiguous delights packed into one short but gently inspiring experience to satisfy anyone looking for a deeper meaning in the gaming realm.



Photo courtesy of thatgamecompany.

Explore the endless world of Journey, a new indie that is enjoyable as well as literally uplifting.

Madden 13 satisfies gamer

Fan of EA sports enthralled with latest installment in franchise

BY ERIC MONAHAN
Staff Writer

With the NFL season kick-off last Wednesday, Sept. 5, the anticipation for the football simulation video game, Madden 13, has kicked into full game mode with sports fans.

Even with the game’s lackluster promotions on TV, I was optimistic about this year’s release. The new voice feature allows the player to control the type of strategies for plays. However, it is only applicable if you have a headset or an XBOX Connect. The plays can range from a run, short pass, deep pass or play action, along with four additional options depending on your team.

While these new features are fantastic, the additional graphics

and added game physics make for a spectacular game play. However, that’s where the positives end.

Franchise mode, used mostly for fantasy drafts (a draft where you can pick your players given your draft choice) and dynasties, has been replaced by career mode. Within career mode, gamers can opt to be a player or take control as a new coach for his or her respective team choice.

Personally, I take issue with this new mode. I was a fan of the franchise mode because of its fantasy draft option. In career mode, you cannot organize a fantasy draft.

Some of the new features in career mode include picking a background story for your player. You can choose to be a high draft choice, a late round draft choice or undrafted. You can take

part in practices where you can earn experience, boosting your attributes and improving your player in order to move up the depth chart. This way you can earn more play time.

With more play time, you can earn more experience to enhance your player. Coaching mode is different since you are always playing offense and defense and you need to watch your game goals and career goals to gain boosted experience points.

The experience points still do not make up for the lack of cooperation with NCAA football and the exiting the franchise mode or the option to do a fantasy draft. As a final ruling, Madden 13 is a great game to play online or against friends. Avoid if you are hoping for a franchise with a fantasy draft like past years.



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New beats entice listener

ASAP Rocky releases latest mixtape “Lords Never Worry”

BY ERIC MCEWEN

Staff Writer

Since the release of the music video, “Purple Swag”, a lot of attention has been brought to 24-year-old Harlem-based rapper Rakim Mayers, also known as ASAP Rocky. The young MC, along with the help of many of his friends, have created the ASAP Mob, which is a syndicate consisting of producers, fashion designers, and other rappers. Recently, ASAP Rocky has released a mixtape titled “Lords Never Worry”.

For those who aren’t familiar with his style, it can best be described as an intermixing of the east and west coasts, and

even elements of southern rap can be heard. By incorporating aspects of music synonymous with different areas, he creates a unique sound that can’t really be categorized due to its originality. Production in his music usually includes down-tempo, hazy sounding beats accompanied by disembodied vocals and heavy, rumbling 808’s.

As far as a southern influence goes, you may be reminded of the late DJ Screw when hearing some of the pitch-edited, deeply-voiced lines usually used in “chopped-and-screwed” music. The highly anticipated mixtape, “Lords Never Worry”, was released for free download on August 28. It features production by Clams Casino, who has produced for

artists like west coast “swag rapper” Lil B and many others. Some excellent collaborations appear on the mixtape, including verses from some notable rappers such as Jim Jones and Wu-Tang Clan’s Raekwon.

The production on this mixtape doesn’t show a substantial alteration from ASAP Rocky’s previous work. It still incorporates various musical scenes and doesn’t stray far from the dreamy soundscapes and languidly tranquil style that he is noted for. His delivery can be reminiscent of Bone-Thugs-and Harmony with his staccato style of rapping and a harmonic tone to his words. His influence also includes Harlem-oriented group Mobb Deep.

Novel ‘claws’ its way into reader

BY KELSI BERTHEAUME

Staff Writer

The number one national bestselling author, Erin Hunter, pleases me once again. I have read all of Hunter’s works since the beginning of her novel series, Warriors. Warriors: Omen of the Stars reveals the answers to a lot of questions through the latest installment of the Warriors series.

With this being the sixth book of this series, I still had many questions since I knew a new evil was rising in the fifth book. I wondered if the Clans (a society of warrior cats) survived. How would they defeat the evil? As I’ve said, these questions and many others are answered in this book.

I really enjoy the Warriors series because it always pulls you

in no matter how many moons (months) have passed in each book. Each book was easy to understand, as long as you started reading from the beginning. I don’t recommend reading the books out of order since each book is tied to the very first book called Warriors: Into the Wild. I recommend this book to teens and older adults who love fights that draw blood and death.

Also, I give this book a ten out of ten because it ends in a way that is satisfying to the reader and doesn’t leave readers with nothing but cliffhangers leading into the next book. I’m really content with Hunter’s work and she will release new books along with the new series. I also recommend you keep an eye out for all of her books and try to read them if you like animals and don’t mind blood and fights.

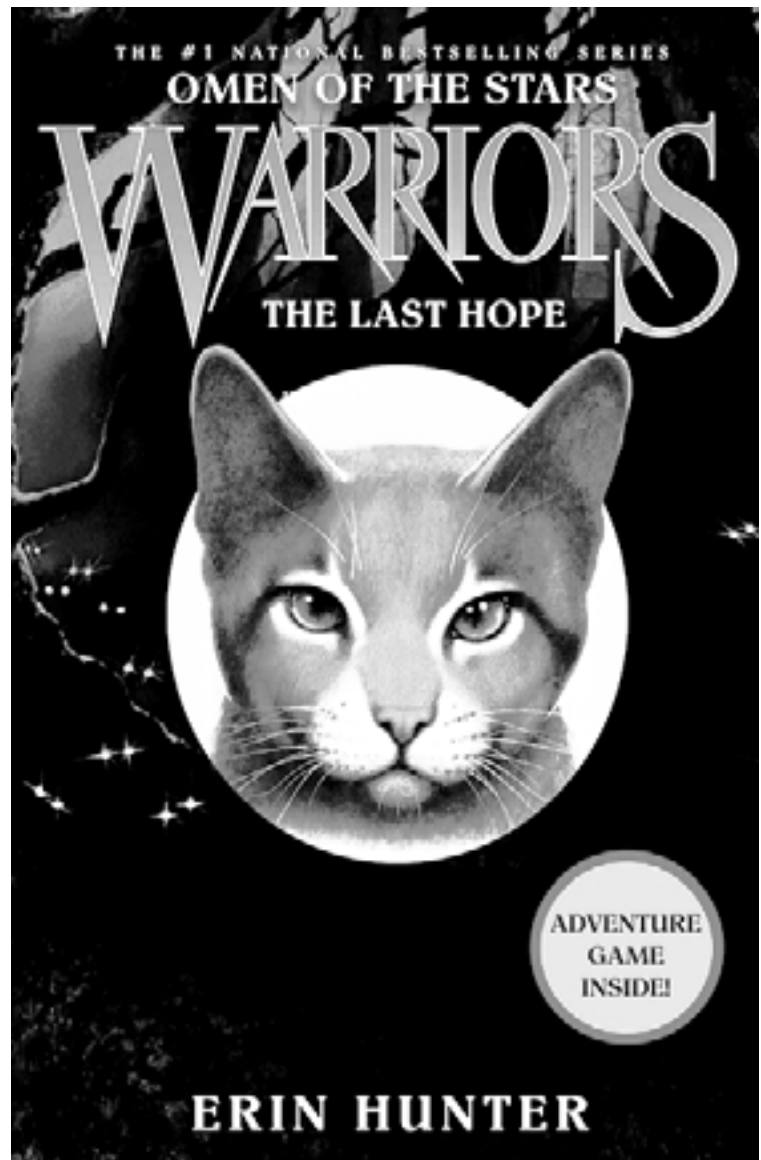


Photo courtesy of Harper Collins

Cross-Country

No. 9 women lean on returning All-American; Men’s team returns only one in rebuilding year

BY TOMMY STOKKE

Sports Editor

If there’s ever a time to rebuild an athletic program, it’s always nice to have at least one experienced leader.

Just ask men and women’s cross-country coach Rich McCarthy.

With just two returning sophomores combined on both cross-country teams, McCarthy is leaning heavily on his sophomores Claudia Davila and Lex Gordon.

“It’s very helpful,” McCarthy said who is entering his seventh season at the helm. “We have a pretty new team with only two people coming back. They’re great role models. They do a great job getting everyone

comfortable quickly. They just put everyone at ease and work hard and set a great example.”

For the women, it’s all about Davila’s return and her leadership coming into this season. The Lady Wolves come in ranked No. 9 in the country behind Davila, who became the first runner to be named NJCAA Division III 2nd team All-American, as well as conference and region Runner of the Year. She finished 10th individually in the National Championship.

“The biggest adjustment for the women is the size of the fields. Claudia’s experience in that really helps,” McCarthy said. “Not only do we compete in events against

all other Division III teams, but you’ll find Division I runners there on full scholarships. Some of them will even compete in the Olympics or professionally, and Claudia competes with them.”

Davila started the season out with a third place finish in the Harper Invite with a two-mile time of 13:28. Jessica Price (17), Elexis Akins (23), Kelly Stock (26) and Rayvan Richardson (27) rounded out the scoring for JJC.

The men’s team also competed in the event, with Sam Froemel leading the way finishing 15th with a 17:49 time, followed by Gordon (18) 17:56 and Alex Forgue’s (27) 19:23.

Not only does the men’s

team have to adjust to the longer distance races at this level, but team expectations are incomplete due to the roster size. In cross-country, five finishers are needed to qualify for team scores; however, the men’s team currently fields just four runners.

“It’s okay,” McCarthy said of the small roster. “When it comes to running, I really want to get everyone to improve on an individual level.

“Yes, it’s a little disappointing that we can’t accomplish all of our goals, but we have three freshman boys this year that we’re hoping to improve heading into next year. You want to reach your goals while also planning for

next season, so hopefully it will carry over into a strong start.”

McCarthy sees the Harper Invite as a “tune-up” for later on in the season.

“It was about 95 degrees that day so we really wanted to take it easy. We didn’t want anyone over-taxing themselves,” he said. “We like the event to get our first race out of the way and hopefully build a little bit of confidence heading into a meet like Illinois State.”

Both teams head to Bloomington on Friday to compete in the Illinois State Invite at 4:45 p.m in the first big test of the season. Both teams compete again at Loyola on Sept. 29.

Men’s Soccer

Offense clicking early behind Marcos Gomez

BY ERIC MONOHAN

Staff Writer

After ending last season with a playoff loss, the Wolves were looking forward to opening up a new season with a win against Prairie State on Aug. 24.

Prairie State had other plans, however, handing the Wolves a 3-2 overtime loss. The Wolves goals came from sophomore Gustav Agbortoko and freshman Marcos Gomez. Sophomore goalkeeper Dillon Howell recorded seven saves.

The Wolves next conference game was at home against Harper College on Aug. 29, and the result was better as the Wolves rang up a 5-0 win. This time the offense was clicking. Julio De Haro scored in the 35th minute on an assist by Carlos Patino. In the 52nd minute, Erick Ontiveros scored a goal. Three minutes later Gomez scored to make the game 3-0 on an assist by Bryan Chavez.

Jonathan Iniguez later scored in the 68th minute on a pass from German Ortega. The scoring was capped off by Agbortoko in the 86th minute. Howell recorded two saves for the Wolves.

Fresh off a victory, the Wolves hoped to carry momentum into conference opponent Moraine Valley Community College. The Wolves were held scoreless in the contest falling 2-0. The optimistic view on this game came from keeper Howell, who recorded three saves keeping the game within reach before the final buzzer sounded. JJC would then go on the road to play conference foe Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Against MATC, the Wolves would again have the offense clicking and would win to the tune of 5-3. Gomez was an offensive leader for the Wolves scoring two of the five goals. JJC would improve its record at that point to 2-2 overall and a conference record of 2-0.

The Wolves next home game is on Wednesday, Sept. 26 in a rematch against MATC. The game is scheduled to kick-off at 4 p.m.

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Last year’s captain Caytin Lewin makes a play on the ball against Triton College.

File photo

Preseason costs Lady Wolves six players, but team races to 3-0 start

BY TOMMY STOKKE

Sports Editor

When scheduling multiple exhibitions against stiff competition during the preseason, a head coach wants to see his team compete while walking away healthy for the regular season.

Unfortunately for head coach Gino Di Nardo, the women’s soccer team came across a worst-case scenario—times six.

Di Nardo, while impressed with the way his team competed, lost six team members in the preseason due to a plethora of reasons. But he’s used that experience to make the best out of the season moving forward.

“It made the team more resilient and determined,” Di Nardo said of the early season difficulties. “We talked about losing these players with the hope that we could recruit a few more good players, which we

did.”

Gone are Stephanie Verdin, Alejandra Prado, Paulina Razo, Isabel Razo, Steffany Lara and Samantha Herrera due to knee injuries, scheduling conflicts and personal reasons. But Brittany Lenza and Eliosa Mireles have propelled the Lady Wolves to a 3-0 start, living up to Di Nardo’s expectations.

“At tryouts, I saw six returning sophomores and a new core of freshman that I thought would make this a good year for the program,” Di Nardo said. “The players are good enough to make a run at the conference.”

If JJC is to make a run at the N4C crown, Lenza and Mireles will be key. The two have combined for 10 of the 11 goals scored thus far this season, including a hat trick by each in a 7-3 win over South Suburban.

Two more goals for each pushed the Lady Wolves to a 4-2 win over conference foe Harper. Another win was tallied after a Milwaukee Area Tech College forfeit.

“The team has taken the start of the season in stride,” said Di Nardo. “They believe in the team, and what we can accomplish, providing we stay healthy.”

With a roster full of local talent, overcoming adversity leading into Friday’s game at Morton wasn’t as challenging with the chemistry developed under Di Nardo.

“The majority of these girls have played together at Joliet West, Joliet Central and Plainfield Central. We have some from Minooka and Romeoville as well,” Di Nardo said.

“It does take some time to play together as a unit, but they are responding.”

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SPORTS



Photo by Emily Gahan

Lizette Gonzalez serves during a match against Elmhurst.



Photo by Emily Gahan

Hailee Clark, Paige Cline and Bailey Wuske team up for a block against Elmhurst.

Volleyball experiencing ‘growing pains’

BY ERIC MONAHAN

Staff Writer

Upon entering the weekend games and Tuesday’s home game, the Lady Wolves are 5-10 overall and 2-1 in conference. But with just one returning sophomore, there is plenty of room to grow.

While this is an exciting opportunity for head coach Lakisha Cameron, it also presents its challenges. Players cannot turn to veteran players for leadership in pivotal moments, such as rallying from a deficit or swinging momentum back in their favor. It is within these moments where leadership, unity and development are the keys to

success for the Lady Wolves this year.

One returning player isn’t a handicap for Cameron. First year players have stepped up as a team and seized the opportunity.

“It’s not about losing; it’s a young team,” Cameron said. “We have growing pains. We have to be willing to learn and get used to each other.”

The Wolves ran into trouble in their season opener at the annual Kankakee CC tournament. In the first game, JJC fell to Illinois Central College 25-11, 25-8, 27-15. Lizette Gonzalez and Nicole Ramaglia had six kills each. Jana Phelps and Hailee Clark recorded seven digs each, while Emily Kramolisch was accredited with

13 assists.

In the second game, the Lady Wolves fell in four games to Lewis & Clark CC 22-25, 25-15, 25-23, 25-22. Gonzalez and Paige Cline led the attack with 11 kills each, which gave Gonzalez 17 kills for the day. Phelps had 11 digs, while Ramaglia finished with 10. Kramolisch provided an additional 32 assists, giving her 42 for the day.

The Lady Wolves bounced back the next day, earning their first win of the season, topping McHenry County College 25-18, 25-14, 24-26, 25-18. Gonzalez led the way with 14 kills. Phelps and Ramaglia both finished with 10 kills, with Kramolisch added 34 assists.

Kaskaskia College topped Joliet in game two 25-15, 25-22, 25-18. Ramaglia recorded 10 kills, while Phelps had a team high 11 digs. Kramolisch was accredited with 25 assists.

In game three, JJC was defeated by Kankakee Community College 25-18, 25-17, 25-22. Gonzalez had nine kills, giving her a total 23 for the day and 40 for the tournament. Phelps earned 9 digs, giving her a total of 20 for the day and 38 for the tournament. Kramolisch totaled 19 assists, giving her a total of 73 assists for the day and a total of 125 for the tournament. Gonzalez earned a spot on the all-tournament team for her efforts in the tournament.

While Cameron isn’t tallying

wins and losses at this point, she is focused on the game and how the team learns from losses. Simply, Cameron doesn’t expect perfection immediately. The team must learn to cope with their surroundings before taking the lead.

With the team attributing its learning experiences to teamwork and not individual performance, one can see the beginnings of leadership and willingness to learn.

“We need to come out and play hard to protect our house,” says Monica Borrego. Borrego, along with her teammates, say that “they try their best even with the losses, and will continue to do so against any competition.”

MALE ATHLETE — OF THE — ISSUE FEMALE ATHLETE — OF THE — ISSUE

BY ERIC MONAHAN

This issue’s male athlete is freshman soccer standout Marcos Gomez. Gomez has helped the Wolves start out with a 2-2 record overall and a conference record of 2-0. Gomez has scored a goal in all three games he has played in, including two in a winning victory against Milwaukee Area Technical College.



Marcos Gomez

This issues female athlete is sophomore Claudia Davila. Davila finished third at the Harper College Invitational. At that invite she finished third with a time of 13:28 for two miles. Davila is coming off a freshman season as second team All-American and is off to a positive start for repeating or improving that honor.



Claudia Davila